

July 27 / Administration of William J. Clinton, 1995

Remarks in a Telephone Conversation With Mayor Ronald Norick of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

July 27, 1995

The President. Mayor?

Mayor Norick. Yes.

The President. How are you? Good morning.

Mayor Norick. Good morning, Mr. President. How are you doing this morning?

The President. I'm doing fine. How are you managing your heat wave down there?

Mayor Norick. Well, it's typical for Oklahoma, so we don't mind it too bad. But I appreciate your call, and I especially appreciate the reason for your call.

The President. Well, as you know, I signed the rescission bill today, and because of your efforts and the efforts of many other people, the bill includes \$39 million in funding to restore and revitalize the area that was affected by the bombing. And we tried to give you significant flexibility so that you could use these funds in a way that would spur economic recovery and have the biggest impact.

So I wanted to tell you that we signed it today, and we thank you for your efforts. And I hope that they'll be very helpful to you.

Mayor Norick. They will be extremely helpful. We have a—the group from NEA have been in here for the last week assisting us, and we've come up with our first plan for the area revitalization, have been meeting with a number of the business owners. They're obviously very excited about the interest that not only the White House but that HUD, that Cisneros has taken, and also the city, making sure their area is rebuilt.

Also I want to let you know that Councilman Schwartz, who has been instrumental from our end also is here with me. On the short notice,

we were the only two that happened to be within a 3- or 4-minute drive time of city hall, and really do appreciate all the efforts that you've been able to make toward our city. And I know from your earlier conversations that should we need any additional help in any other areas, that that door is open. And we will not abuse that opportunity, should it arise.

The President. Well, I know that Secretary Cisneros will be in regular touch with you, and he'll also try to keep me in touch. But if you need us, let us know. And you tell Councilman Schwartz I said hello as well.

Councilman Mark Schwartz. Thank you, Mr. President.

Mayor Norick. Okay. Well, thank you, Mr. President. And I appreciate very much your call. And I especially appreciate your signature. If you've got an extra pen, send it down here. [Laughter]

The President. As a matter of fact, I saved one for you. I'll send it to you.

Mayor Norick. I would love to have it. It would be something that will be a real keepsake for our community, and I'm sure when we finally get the memorial done and all of that it would be a wonderful item to put in our memorial.

The President. Thank you, sir.

Mayor Norick. Thank you.

The President. Have a good day. Good-bye.

NOTE: The President spoke at 10:15 a.m. from the Oval Office at the White House. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

Remarks Welcoming President Kim Yong-sam of South Korea

July 27, 1995

President and Mrs. Kim, members of the Korea delegation, welcome to the United States and welcome to Washington. Let me extend a special greeting to the many Korean-Americans who contribute so much to America's strength

and diversity: Thank you, too, for being here today.

The Republic of Korea and the United States are joined by a history of shared sacrifice and by a future of common purpose. Today Presi-

dent Kim and I will pay tribute to that past and continue our work toward that future.

Mr. President, your great personal sacrifice and single-mindedness of purpose help return democracy to your country for the first time in three decades. Since your election 2½ years ago, South Korea has matched its incredible economic success with remarkable political progress. And in so many areas, from regional security to expanded trade, from peacekeeping to diplomacy, you have strengthened the partnership between our two nations.

Today I reaffirm America's pledge to stand by that partnership. Our forces will remain in Korea as long as the Korean people want them there. Ultimately, the North-South dialog and the future of the Korean Peninsula are in the hands of the Korean people. But you will always have the support of the United States.

Together we have made great progress. With Japan, we secured an agreement from North Korea to end its dangerous nuclear program. With other Northeast Asian nations we are

strengthening our security alliance, so that a region too often torn apart by war knows a future of peace. We are taking historic steps to make trade and investment more free throughout the Asia-Pacific region so that all our people know a future of prosperity. South Korea is and must remain a vital leader in all these efforts, and all of this will be on our agenda today.

Today President Kim and I will also commemorate the foundation of our partnership when we dedicate the Korean War Veterans Memorial. The monument pays tribute to the Americans who fought side by side with South Koreans in defense of their land. And it stands as evidence of an unshakable alliance between our two nations, an alliance today that is stronger than ever.

Mr. President, we're glad to have you with us. Welcome back to the White House; welcome back to America.

NOTE: The President spoke at 10:46 a.m. on the South Lawn at the White House.

The President's News Conference With President Kim Yong-sam of South Korea

July 27, 1995

President Clinton. On this day, as we remember the sacrifice of those who built the great alliance between the United States and Korea, President Kim has come back to the White House to look forward. In our discussions, we focused on the clear and common goals that our nations have pursued together for decades: to strengthen our alliance, to stand together against threats to our shared ideals and interests, and to increase the safety and prosperity of our peoples. Over the past 3 years, President Kim and I have worked closely together to advance these goals. And in him I have found an ally whose courage is matched only by his commitment to freedom.

Our talks centered on the critical strategic challenges facing Korea and the United States. Forty-two years have passed since the Korean war ended, but for the people of South Korea the threat is present every day. Through all these years, America's commitment to South Korea has not wavered. And today I reaffirmed

our Nation's pledge to keep American forces in Korea as long as they are needed and the Korean people want them to remain.

President Kim and I discussed the strategy our nations, along with Japan, are using to confront a new, but no less terrible, threat to his people, North Korea's dangerous nuclear program. Already, thanks to our efforts, North Korea has frozen its existing program under international inspection. Today President Kim reaffirmed his strong support for the framework and for the understanding reached in Kuala Lumpur that confirmed South Korea's central role in helping the North acquire less dangerous light-water reactors.

I also told President Kim that the United States regards North Korea's commitment to resume dialog with the South as an integral component of the framework. President Kim expressed to me his determination to enter into meaningful dialog with the North, and the United States stands ready to support his efforts.